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## (12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 079 256 A

(21) Application No 8120299

(22) Date of filing 1 Jul 1981

(30) Priority data

(31) 5330/80

(32) 11 Jul 1980

(33) Switzerland (CH)

(43) Application published

20 Jan 1982

(51) INT CL<sup>3</sup>

B65D 6/02

(52) Domestic classification

B8P E2C S

(56) Documents cited

None

(58) Field of search

B8P

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### (54) Separator Tray

(57) A separator tray (1) for stacked groups of articles has a perforated base (3) with openings (4) and lower bracing ribs (5) which is pressed onto an outer part having troughs (8),

which are separated from each other by support folds (9). The troughs (8) are provided with cutouts (11), to facilitate stacking of the tray on top of a standard crate and are profiled to cooperate with the upper regions of the articles in the underlying group in a stack.

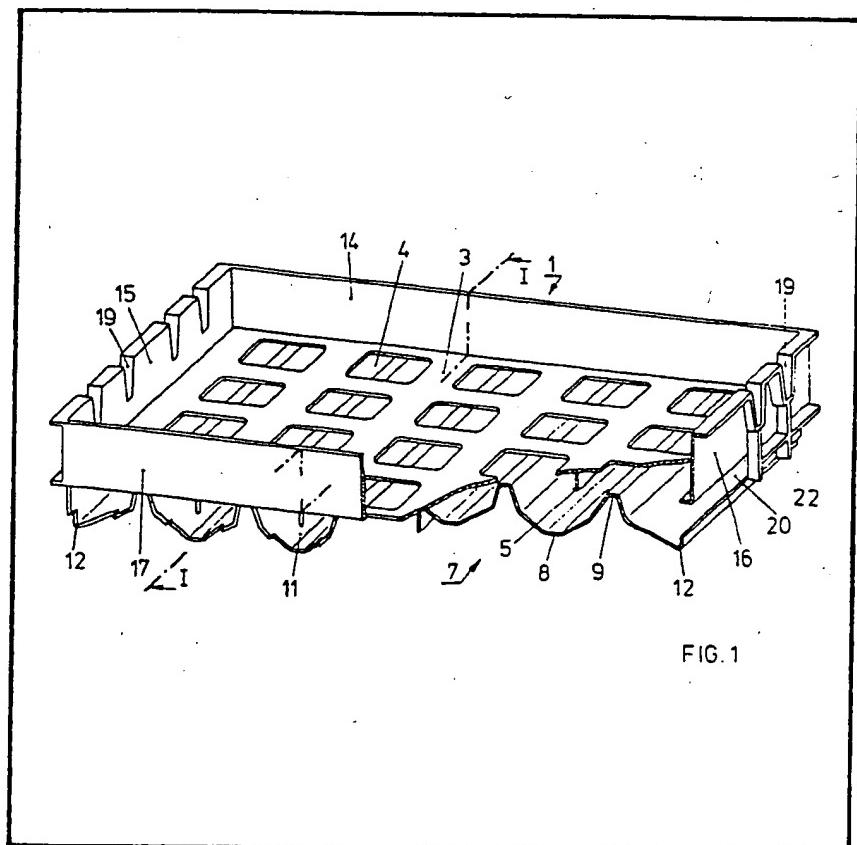


FIG.1

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## SPECIFICATION Separator Basket

The present invention relates to a separator basket with a perforated base, side walls and a sub-base with at least parts of troughs running parallel to each other and separated from each other, the outer surfaces of which serve to support the roof-shaped upper parts of packaging.

- 5 Separators have been introduced for unique application between stacked groups of containers or tubes. These separators are unable to be combined with other containers, particularly standard crates. Such separators serve for the stacking of containers or tubes having a specific 10 shape, particularly a roof shape with a vertical gable piece. A combination with other products, namely those which are stacked in crates, cannot be carried out with these separators (CH-PS 520 15 040).
- 20 The object of the present invention is to create a separator basket, which not only enables groups of containers or tubes to be stacked, which have the above-mentioned roof shape, but also at the same time permits a connection with standard 25 crates, ie. offers the possibility of placing the baskets onto crates or stacking them onto crates.

The separator basket according to the invention solves this problem, its distinguishing feature being that in order for the mount to be 30 stackable onto a crate, the troughs or trough parts have cutouts on their lateral ends, to enable the separator basket to be stacked onto crates.

An example embodiment of the object of the invention will be illustrated as follows, with the 35 aid of a drawing, showing:

Fig. 1 a perspective representation in top view of a separator basket, with parts cut away,

Fig. 2 a section I—I through the separator basket according to Fig. 1,

40 Fig. 3 the upper part of a crate, onto which the separator basket according to Fig. 1 can be stacked,

Fig. 4 a section of a stack of separator baskets with square containers holding fluid, and having a 45 seal similar to a sloping roof, and a flat base,

Fig. 5 a view from below of the separator basket according to Fig. 1.

A separator basket 1 is shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 45 4, 5. It has a perforated base 3 with square

50 openings 4 and lower bracing ribs 5. The perforated base 3 is pressed onto an outer piece with a sub-base 7, this sub-base being comprised of troughs 8, which are separated from each other by support folds 9. The troughs 8 are provided 55 with cutouts 11 on their two longitudinal ends, such that the shorter parts of the base fit between the walls of standard crates 25. Side walls 14,

15, 16 and 17 are arranged around the sub-base 7. The side wall pieces lying above the sub-base 7 60 are provided with slits 19 on the two narrow side walls 15 and 16, whilst the centres of these side walls 15 and 16 have recesses 20 which can be used as handholds. The two side walls 15 and 16 are also provided with strengthening ribs as 65 supports 22. There are also recesses provided in the longitudinal side walls 14 and 17, which serve as handholds, such that the separator basket 1 can also be picked up on its longitudinal sides. This makes it possible to grasp hold of the basket 70 1 either on the narrow or longitudinal sides, which facilitates repacking into corresponding standard crates 25 of 400×300 or 400×600 mm.

A half trough 12 is provided on the two ends of the sub-base 7 respectively. The troughs 8 and 12 75 are open laterally, to ensure efficient cleaning. It is also important that the separator baskets 1 can be flushed with air, so that possible condensation water on the containers 27 can immediately drain off or evaporate, through which damage to the 80 packaging is avoided.

The separator basket described makes it possible not only to stack containers, but also to combine them with standard crates 25, which considerably increases its variety of applications.

## 85 Claims

1. Separator basket with a perforated base, side walls and a sub-base with at least parts of troughs running parallel to each other and separated from each other, the outer surfaces of 90 which serve to support roof-shaped upper parts of packaging, characterized in that in order to be able to stack the mount onto a crate (25) the troughs (8) or trough parts (12) have cutouts (11) on their lateral ends, to enable the separator 95 basket to be stacked onto crates.

2. Separator basket according to Claim 1, characterized in that the side walls (14—17), which extend above and below the perforated base (3), have supports (22) so that the basket 100 can be placed onto the upper rims of the crate (25).

3. Separator basket according to Claim 1, characterized in that above the perforated base (3) rising side wall pieces with recesses, eg. slits (19) are provided, for the stacking of empty 105 baskets.

4. Separator basket according to Claim 1, characterized in that side walls, preferably all four side walls (14—17) are provided with recesses (20) to form handholds.

5. Separator basket according to Claim 1, characterized in that the troughs (8) or trough parts (12) are open on both sides, to facilitate cleaning.

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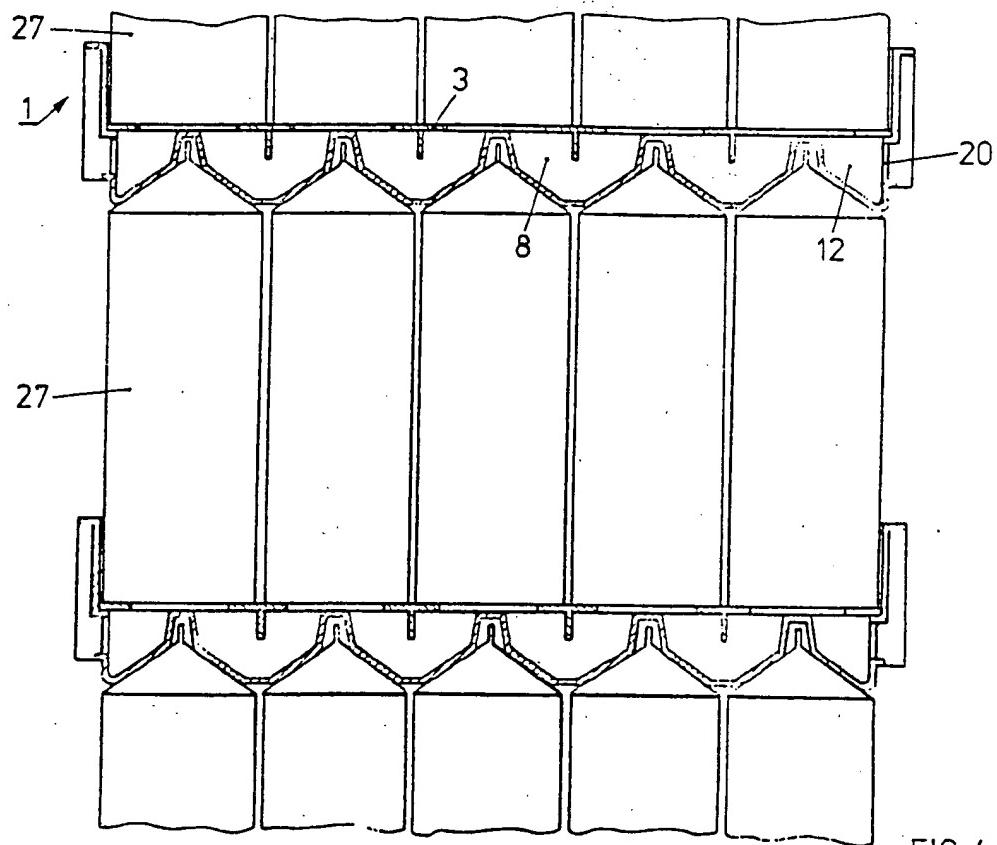


FIG. 4

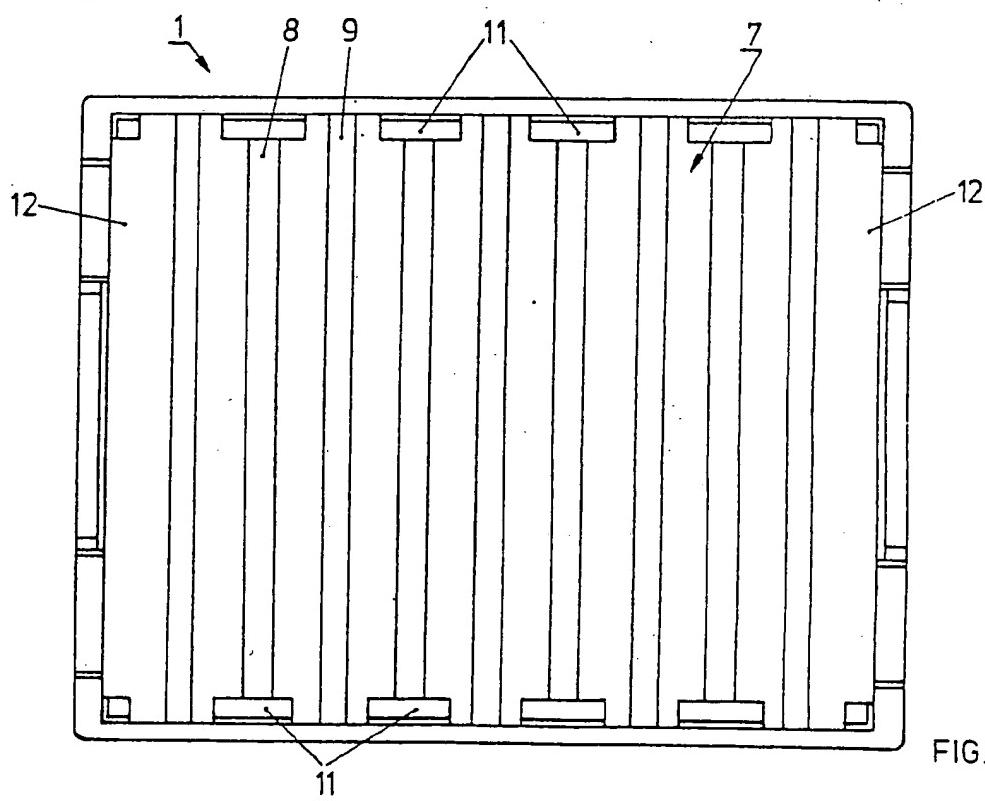


FIG. 5

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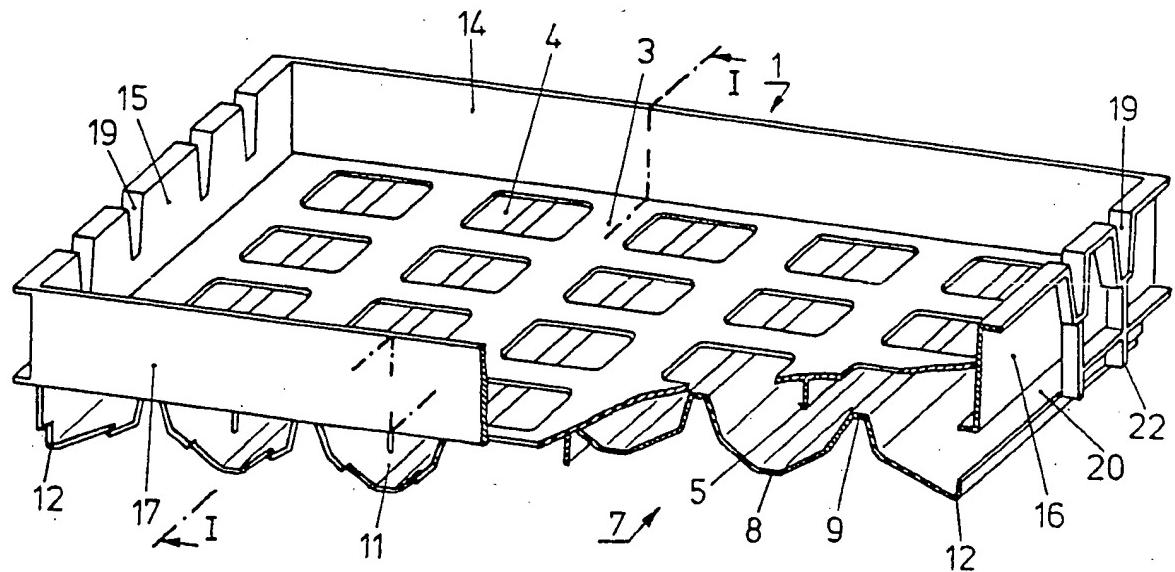


FIG. 1

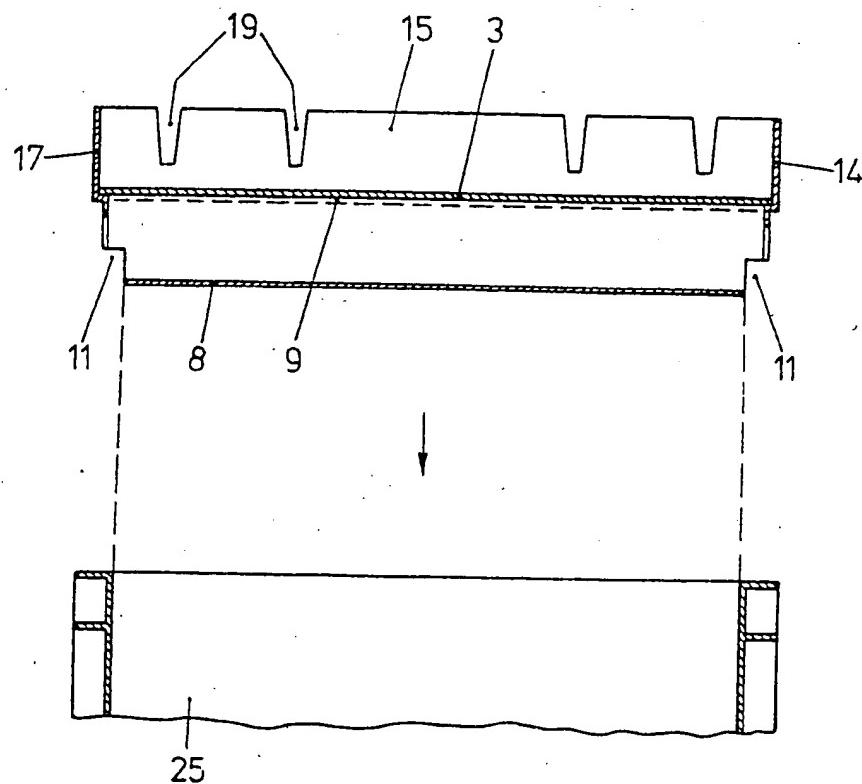


FIG. 2

FIG. 3